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5th. White-wash all your rooms, and the entrance to them, with lime slackened, in the place where you intend to use it, and while it continues bubbling and hot.

6th. Scrape your floor with a shovel, and wash it clean, also your furniture.

7th. Keep in the open air, for the space of a week, as much as you can.

And lastly. Wash your face, hands and feet, and comb your hair well, every morning.

N.B. The benefit of this advice, after infection has entered your dwelling, you will soon feel, and persevering in your attention to it, will, under God, preserve you from all the variety of wretchedness occasioned by infectious fevers.

Attend to it then with spirit and punctuality, for be assured that cleanliness will check disease, improve your health and strength, and increase your comfort.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

HIBERNIAN SUNDAY SCHOOL SOCIETY.

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moy; Right Hon. Sir John Stewart and Co. Dublin and Londonderry; by the Guardians or any of the Committee.

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THAT national education is of the utmost importance to Ireland, and that rapid strides have been made in the advancement of this desirable object, within a few years, are facts generally admitted, and in proportion as the extent and benefit of what has been done are acknowledged, so does the view excite general inquiry, as to what yet remains to be done, or what measures may be adopted to render the object more diffusive and permanent. The attention, not only of individuals but also of associated bodies, has been turned to the subject, various plans have been proposed and considerable exertion has been made and is still making, in the laudable endeavour to extend the blessings of instruction.

When it is considered that the greater part of the population of Ireland are excluded, by the poverty of their condition, from deriving any advantage from the customary modes of daily education, and that so circumstanced, those individuals are the more immediate objects in view; the natural research is as to that mode which if adopted, will be most diffusive and beneficial in its results; and in the inquiry, it is necessary to take into special consideration the situation of the persons intended to be benefited, who, almost without exception, derive subsistence from continued labour, and of course must be accommodated by arrangements answering to their short periods of leisure.

Amongst the various plans therefore hitherto suggested, none has perhaps been adopted more generally useful, under the foregoing circumstances, or more effectually tending to the end proposed, than the establishment of Sunday Schools.

They hold out to the children of the manufacturer and the peasant, the means of procuring instruction of the most important kind, at once tending to inculcate the principles of religion, leading as a consequence, to

decency and good conduct, and affording a pleasing domestic employment to the lower orders in the improvement of their minds by reading, and the acquirement of habits which will naturally supersede occupations of the grossest and most fatally destructive tendency, they also lead to decent and useful appropriations of the Sabbath, by rendering that period of rest from bodily labour instrumental to the acquirement of knowledge, which is at present, in too many instances, dedicated to profligacy and guilt.

It is further to be observed, that the influence of these schools does not confine its effects merely to the Sunday, or to the children who are the more immediate objects of instruction. In the one instance, the school books, the use of which is given to them on the week days, will be read with sedulous attention, and the children feeling the advantages afforded them, and appreciating their value, will be stimulated to extraordinary diligence; and will be found not alone to cope with, but sometimes to surpass even week-day scholars in application and successful exertion. Nor will the instruction they receive be always confined to themselves, but what they have learned will be communicated to others with the eagerness of young minds ardent at the dawning of information; their infant brothers and sisters will, in turn, become their pupils at home, and not unfrequently the parents themselves derive the first rudiments of knowledge from their offspring; the fact of a child instructing his father in the lessons he had learned at a Sunday school, progressively as he himself received them, is too interesting and important to be omitted, and speaks most strongly that the influence of Sunday school education, extends beyond the day on which it is administered and without the walls of the institution.

Thus far the view has been principally directed to the consequences resulting to the individuals, the immediate objects of establishments such as have been stated, but a very momentous and important one remains to be considered, and that is, the effects of the relation that will exist between the teachers and their scholars; as the instructors generally act

gratuitously, a mutual feeling of interest will naturally be excited; the teachers on the one hand, considering it as their duty not only to attend to the education of the children on Sunday, but likewise to their morals and conduct during the week, (a superintendance which their local situation and individual knowledge will readily admit of) they will assist them on their entrance into, and progress through life, considering it as their duty to befriend them in circumstances of distress, sickness, and affliction.

The children on the other hand will look up to their teachers with almost filial fondness, their growing years will enable them to appreciate the motives which induced their superiors in life to give up their time, gratuitously, to the arduous task of instruction, for their advantage, and the man will contemplate with affection and reverence, the individuals or descendants of those whose kindness instructed his infancy and gave a true value to his riper years.

Such are a few of the many advantages obviously resulting from Sunday school education: the conviction of the vital importance of this object has given rise to the *Hibernian Sunday School Society*, which has been formed for the purpose of extending and giving efficacy to the establishment and the conducting of Sunday schools in Ireland, a measure, it is trusted, the necessity of which will be sufficiently felt to gain it very extensive patronage and support. Although Sunday schools have been partially established throughout the kingdom, and have promoted proportionable good, it is confidently hoped that this society will tend to increase the number and render education in Ireland somewhat commensurate with the necessity of its population. In England the business has been for some time conducted with astonishing effect, as the London Sunday School Society state, that they have assisted or established 2,917 Sunday schools containing 246,724 scholars, and that the Stockport Sunday school alone, consists of the average number of three thousand children and upwards. In the principality of Wales

also, the result of Sunday school instruction has answered the most sanguine expectation, numbering among the objects who enjoy its benefits, not merely children but adults and persons far advanced in years.

In order to show the objects of this institution, the following extracts from the general rules of the society are subjoined.

2d. The object of this society is to promote the establishment and facilitate the conducting of Sunday schools in Ireland.

3d. The society proposes to accomplish the object of their institution, by procuring and disseminating the most approved plans of conducting Sunday schools, by supplying them with spelling books and copies of the sacred Scriptures, at reduced prices, and by contributing to defray the expenses of such schools where necessary, without however interfering with their internal regulations, and as to religious instruction, confining themselves solely to the sacred Scriptures or extracts therefrom.

4th. That this society shall receive subscriptions however small, and that a subscription of one guinea annually shall constitute a member.

5th. The subscription of ten pounds at one time shall constitute a member for life.

6th. A committee of fifteen members, resident in Dublin, together with the treasurer and secretaries, shall be appointed to conduct the business of the society, three of whom to be a quorum.

7th. The committee shall have the management of the monies of the society with the exception of the funded property, they shall fill up any vacancies which may occur in their own body, shall have the power of appointing country members of the committee, and of calling extraordinary general meetings of the society when expedient, giving a fortnight's notice of the time, place and object of such meeting.

8th. The committee shall meet once a month or oftener if necessary.

10th. The society shall hold their annual meeting on the last Tuesday in November, when the accounts of the preceding year and the report of the committee shall be presented.

12th. An annual report of the proceedings of the society, with an account of the state of the funds and a list of the subscribers shall be published.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

We have procured for the information of our Readers 6 additional Reports, from the 4th to the 10th inclusive, of the Commissioners of the Board of Education in Ireland. We subjoin the 4th on the Diocesan free schools. The others shall be given in succession.

FOURTH REPORT FROM THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, IN IRELAND. ACT 46 GEO. III. DIOCESAN FREE SCHOOLS.

TO his grace Charles Duke of Richmond and Lenox, &c. &c. &c. Lord Lieutenant General and General Governor of Ireland.

May it Please your Grace.

We the undersigned Commissioners, appointed for inquiring into the several funds and revenues granted for the purposes of education, and into the state and condition of all schools in Ireland upon public or charitable foundations, in pursuance of the powers vested in us, beg leave to submit to your grace our report upon the present state of the diocesan free schools of Ireland.

The diocesan free schools were established under the authority of an act passed in the 12 Eliz. c. 1. which enacted, that there should be a free school in every diocese in Ireland; that the lord deputy or other chief governor or governor, for the time being, should appoint the schoolmasters in every diocese except those of Armagh, Dublin, Meath, and Kildare, of which the respective archbishops and bishops were to appoint the masters, that the school-house for every diocese should be erected in the principal shire town of the diocese, at the costs and charges of the whole diocese, without respect of freedom, by the device and oversight of the ordinaries of each diocese (or the vicars general *side vacante*) and the sheriff of the shire; that the lord deputy or other chief governor, with and by the advice of the privy coun-